

THE FIVE DOLLAR BABY

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Photoplay of 6 reels

AUG -8 1922 ✓

Suggested by the
Story by Irvin S. Cobb

30637 AUG-8'22

Scenario by Rex Taylor

Directed by Harry Beaumont

Author of photoplay - Metro Pictures Corp.
U.S.A.

~~THE \$5 BABY~~

The Five Dollar Baby.

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A Harry Beaumont Production for Metro Pictures Corporation
Adapted by Rex Taylor from a story by Irvin S. Cobb.

Photographed by John Arnold

Art and Technical director, A.F. Mantz.

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The Cast

RUTH.....	Viola Dana
Ben Shapinsky.....	Ralph Lewis
The Solitary Kid.....	Otto Hoffman
Lary Donovan.....	John Harron
Mr. Donovan.....	Tom McGuire
Bernie Riskin.....	Arthur Rankin
Esther Block.....	Marjorie Maurice
Isadore.....	E. Pasque

THE STORY

The Solitary Kid, a hobo, is surprised to find a baby in a basket which he thought had contained food and which he had picked up off the steps of an asylum. In the basket also is a note from the despondent mother which states that whoever takes care of the baby will be richly rewarded, if he will present the note to the Trust Department of the Harrison National Bank on the baby's eighteenth birthday, December 24, 1921. The Kid decides that here is a chance to cash in but his problem is how to take care of the baby until it is of age.

Seeing a pawnshop with a sign "Ben Shapinsky, I LOAN MONEY ON ANYTHING," the Kid enters the shop with the basket. He learns from Uncle Ben that, according to a law, anything that is pawned must be kept in good order and subject to the call of the borrower as long as the interest is paid. Then he tells Ben that he wishes to pawn a baby and the old man, thinking that he is playing a practical joke on some friend, lends the Kid five Dollars on the Baby.

Later the same night Ben realizes that it was no joke and that he must care for the child until it is called for. Attracted by the child he decides to give it every attention possible, and so secures a nurse.

Twelve years pass and Ruth, as Ben has named the child, has become the most important thing in Ben's life. But he is in constant fear that the man who pawned her will come back and

claim her, as the Kid has faithfully sent the ten cents interest every month, thereby retaining his claim on the Pledge.

Ruth has two ardent admirers, Larry Donohue, the son of a police officer, who is an old friend of Ben's, and Bernie Riskin, whose father owns a clothing store in the next block. Another friend is Esther Block who seems very partial to Bernie. Ruth is sent to a boarding school but at the age of eighteen she returns home, arriving on the day before Christman. Ben gives a party in her honor with a Christman tree and all the trimmings in evidence.

Bernie's mother suggests to Ben that Ruth and Bernie should marry. Believing that this is what Ben desires, and although she is really in love with Larry, Ruth feels that the only way she can repay Ben, is to follow his wishes. Bernie does not appear particularly well pleased over this.

The Solitary Kid arrives in town the same day and presents the note at the Bank. He receives a letter which, to his consternation, states that the person who takes care of the child will receive his reward in heaven. Disjused but thinking that he may be able to get something out of the pawnbroker, the Kid presents, the old pawn ticket and demands his pledge. Ben offers to buy the pawn ticket and the Kid demands ten thousand dollars. agreeing to this, Ben tells the Kid to return the next evening and he will give him the money. The Kid comes for the money and Ben takes him into his office where their conversation is overheard by Ruth who realizes that Ben is about to sacrifice everything he has in the world to save her from this stranger. Taking the money from the safe she runs away. When Ben finds the money gone, the Kid, thinking that he has been deceived, attacks the old man. Larry arrives in time to save Ben, beat up the Kid and takes the Pawn ticket from him, along with the note and other papers.

Ruth meets Larry's father and tells him the story.
they return to the pawnshop, the Kid is arrested and Ben
makes plans to have himself legally appointed as Ruth's
Guardian.

Bernie and Esther arrive with the news that they have
been married so Ruth accepts Larry's proposal of the day before.

METRO PICTURES CORPORATION

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AUG -8 1922

July 29, 1922.

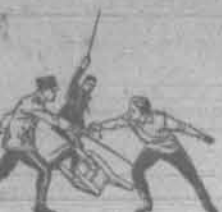


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